

### How the Prize Butter was Made.

The first prize butter at the last New York State Fair was made by W. & H. Vandresser of Scholastic Co. They furnished the American Institute Farmers' Club the following description of the mode of manufacture:

The milking is done in tin pails, and immediately strained in tin pans containing about six quarts each; the pans are set on a rack made of slate about eight inches apart. The temperature is kept from 55 to 60 degrees by four thick walls, by the flow of cold water, and by the use of ice. The milk is allowed to stand 30 hours before skimming. Great care is taken to cream the milk before it is thick or foamed through.

The milk room is a basement underwing of the house, the walls seven feet high, the sides two feet above ground; the end or entrance of the room is four feet above the surface and three feet beneath; the opposite end joins the ceiling under the main part of the house. The bottom is laid with cement three inches thick; the walls are three feet thick, laid with stone and cement, and the surface inside plastered with cement, tathed and plastered overhead. There is a well of pure cold water in the room, a cistern on the outside, with lead pipe conducting the water into the room for washing purposes. Under the pipe is a sink for creaming the milk. At one end of the counter is a hopper or bay for the skimmed milk, which is conveyed to the hopper through pump-logs underground.

The churning is done by dash charms driven by endless chain horse power, two charms running at the same time; 50 to 60 pounds are made at one churning, which occupies about 30 minutes. Great care is taken not to churn too long, as it injures the grain. The butter is taken from the charm with a ladle, and washed with cold well water until it is entirely free from milk. In hot weather ice water is used; we cure with Ashton salt, at the rate of 1 ounce of salt to two pounds of butter. It is then left until the next morning, when it is again worked with a butter worker; care is taken not to work too much as it injures the grain.

It is packed in white oak punts holding 20 or 30 pounds. A cloth is put over the top of the butter, and a thin layer of salt on the cloth. It is then put in the store-room where it is kept until shipped.

Our milk room is kept well ventilated with pure fresh air. It is impossible to make good butter in a close room; the animal heat should be removed from the milk as soon as possible after straining. In summer the windows are open through the night and morning. In cold weather at midday, and the temperature kept up with fire. We churn three or four times a week, making an average of 200 pounds a week, during 10 months of the year.

### Spreading Manure in autumn.

We have endeavored at different times to impress upon our readers the importance of a thorough pulverization and thorough intermixing of manure with the soil. If the intermixing is which you do not do up fertility very well in large heaps, they could be of great use in raising plants. If the soil were in the form of cobblestones, they would produce a very different effect from that resulting from a thorough pulverization together of these ingredients. The same reasoning applies with as great force to manure, whether in large unbroken lumps or in masses, or ground fine powder and uniformly diffused among the particles of the soil.

Autumn application gives an excellent opportunity for this intermixing, in addition to ordinary breaking down by means of manure by the action of the soluble parts in the water of rains, which carry it down into the earth. So efficient and perfect is this intermixing that, according to repeated experiments, its effect on spring crops is twice as great, on an fair average, as when spread in the ordinary manner in spring. This practice is becoming yearly more common; yet we see repeated cautions in the papers against the loss by washing when spread in autumn. We have never found the least detriment from washing on loans containing even a small portion of clay. These absorb all the liquid manure almost as soon as it touches them. When heaps of manure were placed on steep hillsides, the greater part of the grass below, after months of washing, did not extend three feet from the heaps. Grass and its roots appropriate it readily. When spread thinly over the surface, the danger of washing becomes far less than in heaps, as the quantity to be absorbed by a given surface of earth is many times smaller.

Let us distinctly remember, that manure applied in autumn must be always spread, and never left in heaps, by which at least one half its efficacy is lost.

Next to leaving it unspread, is the objectionable practice of scattering it in large jumps, from which only a part of the soluble manure is washed out, and this part is not evenly carried into the soil, but only in spots and patches. These remarks apply both to top dressing grass and spreading oil bars or ploughed soil, although the general practice is to spread oil on grass, whether for seedow or pasture, or on sod to be inverted in spring for corn. Not less beneficial is the autumn application to winter wheat, where, in addition to enriching the plants by the soluble manure, they are protected from the exposure and winds of winter by the albumin or insoluble portions. — *Concerning Gentleman.*

**FOULURE** that has been kept too long and has an unpleasant smell, can be easily fresh and good by putting powdered charcoal in a cloth, tying it up, and placing it inside the foulure for two hours before cooking. If it has not absorbed it readily, remove it, and put a fresh piece with more charcoal in it, the foulure. When the weather is warm and poultry like to spoil, sprinkle powdered charcoal over it, to prevent its becoming tainted.

They have in China what is known as the grease tree. Large forests grow there, and the oleaginous product has become an article of trade. The grease forms an excellent yellow, burning with a clear, brilliant, and what is infinitely more fragrant—white light, and at the same time not a trace of any unpleasant odor, or of the ordinary disagreeable acridity of combustion, simple, but strong.

### Manure for Market Gardening.

We quote the following from Mr. Quinn's new book: "No matter how favorable the location, nor what the character of the soil may be, it will be to great disadvantage who fails to make a liberal application of manure. The question for the gardener is, how much manure can I use with increased profit? And if he is alive to his own interest he will soon discover that the quantity that can be so applied to an acre is large. Of the bulky manures, that from stables where the horses are fed on grain and hay, is of most value. This quality of manure, almost free from straw, we buy at Newark, N. J., at an average of one dollar and thirty-eight cents for a two-horse load. This is hauled and thrown in heaps, sometimes composted with tanner's refuse and woods earth, turning it over two or three times before applying it. Market gardeners will use from 10 to 20 tons of loads, or 100 to 200 loads of this manure, besides a top dressing of manure, or six hundred pounds of a special fertilizer. For the past four years we have contracted for all the manure from a large soap factory, and have found this waste lime, potash, and fatty matter valuable top dressing, applying it at the rate of three or four tons to the acre. We have also used a compost made by decomposing manure with the salt and lime mixture, then adding to this compound an equal bulk of old manure. At the end of six months the whole mass is homogeneous, and when turned under for garden crops, fully equal to load, to pure horse manure."

**THE MOSQUITO DEFENDED.**—The editor of the Boston *Advertiser* is so bold as to defend the mosquito. As there is at present much discussion about that interesting insect in this locality, we give him a few words of his defense:—  
"People fret themselves almost to distraction over mosquitoes, but this is useless. The mosquitoes are not in fault, for they are forced into the habit of depositing, upon whom the night of dispensation usually falls. The *Advertiser* says:—'People fret themselves almost to distraction over mosquitoes, but this is useless. The mosquitoes are not in fault, for they are forced into the habit of depositing, upon whom the night of dispensation usually falls.' The last sentence is true, but this is useless. The mosquitoes are not in fault, for they are forced into the habit of depositing, upon whom the night of dispensation usually falls. The *Advertiser* says:—'People fret themselves almost to distraction over mosquitoes, but this is useless. The mosquitoes are not in fault, for they are forced into the habit of depositing, upon whom the night of dispensation usually falls.'

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